

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

November 19, 2020

Mr. Michael Ravnitzky

[Address Redacted -FOIA Exemption 6 -Personal Privacy]

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request (EPA-2019-001558) – Final Disposition Letter

Dear Mr. Ravnitzky:

This letter responds to your Freedom of Information Act request to the Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General dated November 20, 2018, seeking disclosure of "[e]ach report by the EPA Office of Inspector General concerning the closed investigation of [a named third-party individual], during calendar year 2018."

Your request seeks information concerning a third party. With respect to the individual named in your FOIA request, pursuant to Exemptions 6 and 7(C) of the FOIA, the OIG can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records regarding an investigation. See 5 U.S.C. §552 (b)(6), (b)(7)(C). This response should not be taken as an indication that records exist; rather it is our standard response to requesters seeking information or records pertaining to third parties.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

You may appeal this decision by email at oig_foia@epa.gov, or by mail to the Counsel to the Inspector General, Office of Counsel, Office of Inspector General, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Mail Code (2411T), Washington, D.C. 20460, or through FOIAonline if you are an account holder. The OIG will not consider appeals received after the 90-calendar-day limit. Appeals received after 5:00 p.m. EST will be considered received the next business day. The appeal letter should include the FOIA tracking number listed above. For quickest possible handling, the subject line of your email, the appeal letter, and its envelope, if applicable, should be marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Additionally, you make seek dispute resolution services from either the EPA FOIA Public Liaison (hq.foia@epa.gov; 202-566-1667) or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). OGIS serves as a bridge between FOIA requesters and agencies and can be reached by email at ogis@nara.gov, by phone at 1-877-684-6448, or by fax at (202) 741-5769.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact me at (202) 566-1512 or oig_foia@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

SCOTT

LEVINE

Scott Levine

Digitally signed by SCOTT LEVINE
Date: 2020.11.19
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Associate Counsel & OIG FOIA Officer